

Listing of the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) ~~A system~~An apparatus for printing markings along a top edge and a bottom edge on a front face of a mailpiece in at least two passes through the apparatus, in at least two different orientations, and using a print head in a fixed position, the apparatus comprising:

~~a~~the print head in a fixed position, where the print head receives print instructions and prints both a first set of markings in a first marking pass, and a second set of markings onto the mailpiece in a second marking pass;

a memory containing data representative of the first and second markings, the first markings associated with a first orientation, the second markings associated with a second orientation;

a print module, coupled to the memory and to the print head, for reading the data representative of the first set of markings from the memory, and converting the data to print instructions that instruct the print head to print the first set of markings onto the mailpiece having the first orientation during the first marking pass;

an inverted print module, coupled to the memory and to the print head, for reading the data representative of the second set of markings from the memory, and converting the data to print instructions that instruct the print head to invert the second set of markings on the print head during the second marking pass and printing onto the mailpiece disposed in the second orientation which is inverted about 180 degrees with respect to the first orientation of the mailpiece; and

a control module, coupled to the print module and the inverted print module, for sending marking requests to either the print module or the inverted print module, the marking request indicating which data representative of the first or second sets of markings that are to be read from the memory, by the print module or the inverted print

module, based on whether the mailpiece is being passed in the first or second orientation.

2. (Currently amended) The ~~system~~ apparatus of Claim 1 further comprising:
a scanner for capturing image data from the mailpiece; and
an optical character recognition, coupled to the scanner and the control module,
for converting the image data to computer data, where the control module queries a
second memory for instructions as to what first set of markings and/or second set of
markings are related.

3. (Currently amended) The ~~system~~ apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the first and
second sets of markings are characters, numbers, symbols, graphics, meter indicia,
barcodes, POSTNET barcodes, advertisements, and/or advertisement slogans.

Claims 4-5 (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) A method for printing along ~~tops-top edges~~ and ~~bottoms~~
bottom edges on front faces of mixed mailpieces, the method comprising:
associating first markings with a first mailpiece orientation;
associating second markings with a second mailpiece orientation;
transporting ~~the a~~ mailpiece in the first orientation;
printing, with a fixed print head, the first markings on a first side on the front face
of ~~a the~~ mailpiece, the mailpiece being transported in the first orientation;
reorienting the mailpiece to the second orientation which is about 180 degrees
from the first orientation;
transporting the mailpiece in the second orientation; and
printing on a second side on the front face of the mailpiece, with the fixed print
head, the second markings that are rotated on the print head about 180 degrees from
the first orientation of the mailpiece;
wherein said printing steps are responsive the associating of the first or second
markings with the first or second mailpiece orientations.

7. (Previously presented) The method in Claim 6 further comprising:
determining address information from the mailpiece; and
determining the first markings based upon the address information.

8. (Previously presented) The method in Claim 6 further comprising:
determining address information from the mailpiece; and
determining the second markings based upon the address information.

9. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 6 wherein the markings are
characters, numbers, symbols, graphics, meter indicia, barcodes, POSTNET barcodes,
advertisements, and/or advertisement slogans.

Claims 10-15 (Canceled)